

4.2.9 /x/, /ġ/ These sounds help to give the characteristic color of the Panjabi language so learn them well.

4.2.9.1 /x/ (velar voiceless spirant)

Initial Position

xərбуza	cantelope
xazã	autumn
xala	mother's sister
xuși	happiness
xridnã	to buy

Medial Position

paxnã	warm up
axrea	asking (present) (continuous)
lixnã	to write

Final Position

kalax	black dust
sUx	comfort
pax	warming up
terix	date

4.2.9.2 /ġ/ (velar voiced spirant)

Initial Position

ġas	to faint
ġelti	mistake
ġær	alien, stranger
ġem	grief, worry
ġunda	rascal
ġulab	rose

Medial Position

pagel	crazy
agā	father
pēgrī	small turban

Final Position

baġ	garden
saġ	spinach

4.2.9.3 Drill.

Under certain circumstances /ġ/ will change to a hard "g" sound, as in the following phrases when spoken rapidly:

Phrases:	ki ġem lēgada-i	What is worrying you?
	pagel hoġē	Have you gone mad?

Practice:

<u>Panjabi</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Panjabi</u>	<u>English</u>
ġunda	rascal	genda	onion
xala	mother's sister	k ^h ala	irrigation canal
pax	warming up	pak ^h	wheat covering
xær	blessing	ġær	stranger

Phrase:

May strangers and friends be blessed.

ġærā te yarā di xær hove

4.2.10 /h/ (glottal spirant) The /h/ never occurs in final position.

Initial Position

plow	hal
little shop	haṭṭi
underneath	heṭā
Saturday	haṭa
pipe	huka

A medial /h/ is characteristic of Urdu. In Panjabi words a medial /h/ is generally elided. Thus Lahore in Urdu becomes /lo-or/ in Panjabi.

Phrases:

mera huka heṭṭi te hoṇā cāidæ
My pipe should be at the little shop.

o hal- de heṭāsi
It was under the plow.

4.3 The remaining Panjabi consonants are similar to the English equivalents and should cause no trouble to the English speaker.

Initial	Medial	Final
	š	
šær - town	rištedar - relatives	bədmaš - rascal
	z	
zamindar - peasant	xazā - autumn	tərbəz - melon
	f	
fer - then	hafiz - bless	sirəf - only
	m	
mæ̃ - I	germi - summer	kam - work
	y (semi-consonant)	
ya·r - friends	paiya - wheel	no final

4.4 Germinants

These doubled consonants must be clearly distinguished from single consonants. They are slightly stressed and held twice as long as single consonants. Notice the consonantal contrast in the following two groups:

<u>Panjabi</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Panjabi</u>	<u>English</u>
bečca	child	bečá	to have someone save you
sUkka	dry	sUká	dry
ləbba	found	ləbá	find
əddi	half	sədi	century
səjja	right side	səjá	to have someone decorate
kisse	stories	kise	who
č ^h erra	small bullet	č ^h ura	large knife
k ^h ədda	worn out	k ^h ada	(he) ate
čəvvi	twenty-four	čəve	if he wants
mətt ^h a	kumquat	mIt ^h á	sweet
pUtter	son	pəte	letter
billi	cat	beli	companion
vetta	stone	aṭa	whole wheat flour
p ^h etṭa	plank	paṭa	collar from an animal

4.5. Consonant Clusters

Some of the more difficult consonant clusters which you may have trouble pronouncing are found in the following words. Practice them carefully.

<u>Panjabi</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Panjabi</u>	<u>English</u>
rd pardada	grandfather	rt kurta	shirt
		gr pegri	small turban
rd gerdan	neck	nn sunna	to listen
dd vedde	bite	nn mnni	engagement
tht athtali	forty-eight		
nd munda	boy	kn akhna	to say

5. Vowels

5.1 The Panjabi vowel sounds are as follows:

	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Mid	e		o
Lower-Mid	æ		o
Low		a	

Short vowels: I e ə U